Request from Kerala for allotment of rice instead of wheat

1693. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any request from the Kerala Government for allotment of rice instead of wheat under the centrally sponsored programmes like NREP and RLEGP; and

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been found possible to accede to the request of the State Government in view of limited quantity of rice being made available for the two programmes.

Crisis in mini steel plants

1694. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of mini-steel plants functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware that most of these plants are facing crisis; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to help them to come out from the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Number of functioning mini steel plants State-wise is given in the attached Statement (*See* below).

(b) No report of mini steel plants facing crisis has been received recently. However, 11 mini steel plants have been closed during 1987-88 due to financial problems.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Number of functioning Mini Steel plants State-wise.

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of units
1	Andhra Pradesh	8
2	Assam	2
3	Bihar	7
4	Chandigarh	1
5	Delhi	2
6	Gujarat	5
7	Haryana	7
8	Himachal Pradesh	3
9	Karnataka	11
10	Kerala	1
11	Jammu & Kashmir	1
12	Madhya Pradesh	8
13	Maharashtra	29
14	Orissa	1
15	Pondicherry	2
16	Punjab	8
17	Rajasthan	7
18	Tamil Nadu	5
19	Uttar Pradesh	24
20	West Bengal	21
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Distribution of pulses through Public Distribution System

1695. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to distribute few varieties of pulses

ough the public distribution system the country;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government has undertaken the responsibility for the supply of seven essential commodities, viz., wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, kerosene oil, soft coke and controlled cloth to the States/U.Ts. for distribution through the net-work of the Public Distribution System. The States/U.Ts. are, however, free to include any other commodity including pulses under the Public Distribution System, which they consider essential, which they can procure and distribute. Some of the States like Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are already distributing pulses through the net work of fair price shops.

Development of land for Shantivan, Shakti-Sthal, Vijay Ghat and Kisan Ghat

1696. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the amounts sanctioned and spent, alongwith the estimates of future expenditure, for land development for Shantivan, Shakti-Sthal, Vijay Ghat and Kisan Ghat, separately, along the Jamuna bank in Delhi;

(b) what amount was spent between September, 1987 and at the end of February, 1988; and

(c) what are the outlines and main features of the work done/to be done in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Shantivan and Vijay Ghat were established and developed long ago. No new expenditure has been sanctioned for them during the last 10 years. However, the normal maintenance expenditure is incurred every year for the up-keep of the Samadhis from the CPWD grants for general maintenance. The Vijay Ghat Samadhi area needs an improvement in its surroundings. An assessmet of the new development to be done at Vijay Ghat area has been made. Due to the general economy guidelines under drought, it has been decided to undertake this work next year.

Shakti-Sthal, in memory of Smt. Indira Gandhi, is a new Samadhi area which has been developed. So far a sanction for Rs. 83.58 lakhs has been issued for this development. The total estimated expenditure towards development of Shakti-Sthal is around Rs. 3.00 crores. Its sanction is under process No decision has been taken to set up a 'Kisan Ghat' Samadhi.

(b) An amount of Rs. 51.01 lakhs was spent on the development of Shakti-Sthal during this period. In addition, an amount of Rs. 20.52 lakhs was spent on the construction of a boundary wall on the backside of Raighat Shantivana, Shakti-Sthal and Vijay Ghat.

(c) The main features of the works at Shakti-Sthal are landscaping, construction of Kiosks, construction of lake, provision of toilet facilities, parking space and path ways and security lights, and horticulture works like planting of trees and development of lawns.

Farmers and landless labourers estimated to go below poverty line

1697. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to reply to Un-